

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the Urban District of Clevedon for the year 1949

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you a report upon the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for the year 1949 and to attach a report from your Sanitary Inspector for the same period.

The physical health of the population has been remarkably good though I still think that the housewife has to carry an undue share of anxiety in her effort to provide her family with an attractive and varied diet. In spite of all efforts to relieve the situation, housing shortage is our major problem at the moment and we hope that there will not be undue delay in proceeding with the development of the new estate comprising 157 houses, flats and shops.

It is very gratifying to report the continued absence of serious epidemic disease. There has been no single case of diphtheria and it is to be hoped that parents will continue to give their children the obvious benefit of protection from this disease. We have had three cases of Infantile Paralysis, one of which proved fatal; all victims were adults and in two at least the infection had in all probability been contracted elsewhere. Measles, in comparatively mild form, was prevalent during the first quarter and whooping cough was present at the same time but there were no fatalities from either of these diseases. There have been some new cases of tuberculosis but it would be unwise to draw any general inferences from these figures.

It would appear that there has been a definite decline in the numbers of children protected against smallpox by vaccination in the last two years and though we are not on the direct route of intercontinental travel we cannot afford to ignore the warnings the country has had of the danger of virulent smallpox; when the soil is suitably prepared by neglect of vaccination the disease will find a loophole in our emergency defences.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning but in this connection it would seem desirable that all icecream, prepared under strict supervision, should be retailed in separate cartons and not dispensed from bulk.

The general level of sanitation in the town is fairly good but the refuse tip wants careful watching to prevent nuisance from flies or objectionable smell. The water supply is ample in quantity and of excellent quality as revealed by regular bacteriological examination. It is chlorinated as a precaution against possible contamination from building sites in the catchment area which are beyond your boundaries and your control.

There is still room for improvement in many directions in the preparation, cooking and retailing of foodstuffs; kitchens, sculleries and cooking utensils are not usually appraised in the same way as are the more obvious comforts of the lounges and other public rooms. Bread which does not undergo the saving precaution of being cooked before consumption is still too frequently transported uncovered in ill-conditioned vans and deposited on the doorstep. Pasteurisation and bottling of milk have made much headway in recent years but we still lag behind in the raising of tubercule-free herds on our farms; there is now promise of a speeding-up in this direction.

And the very tempo of our modern urban life, even of our recreation and amusements, threatens to destroy that calm serenity or equanimity which was formerly the happy estate of the 'village blacksmith'.

The local hospital continues its good work for the community; the District Nurses respond to all the many calls that are made upon them; it is hoped that in the not too distant future the new local maternity unit will be functioning, thereby relieving the anxieties of the expectant mothers. There is still a considerable body of loyal voluntary workers who help to run the St. John Ambulance which is ready to meet all demands that are made upon them.

I have to acknowledge with thanks the help and co-operation of all members of the local staff, of my professional colleagues and of the County and Bristol Health authorities.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

June 15th, 1950

G. Macleod

Public Health Staff:-

G. Macleod, M.C., M.A., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health
(part time)
I.C. Leach, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., F.I.A.S., Sanitary Inspector
and Surveyor

Statistics:-

Area. 3292 acres
Registrar General's estimate of population 9799
Number of inhabited houses and flats. 2862
Rateable value as at 1st April 1950 £79,279
Estimated product of penny rate £310
Comparability Factor 0.68

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	70	76	146
Illegitimate	3	2	5

Birth Rate per 1000 of population = 15.4

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Still Birth Rate per 1000 of population = 0.20

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	71	103	174

Death Rate per 1000 = 12.07 (corrected)

Average age at death = 73 years

Deaths of Infants under one year:-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
3	2	5

Infant Mortality Rate = per 1000 live births = 33.1

These infant deaths under one year occurred as under:-

Under one week - 3
1 to 4 weeks - 0
1 to 6 months - 1
6 to 12 months - 1

Deaths from some specified causes:-

Cancer	26
Influenza	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2
Whooping Cough	0
Measles	0
Pneumonia	2
Tuberculosis	3
Infantile Paralysis	1
Puerperal pyrexia	0
Cardio-vascular lesions	72
Respiratory diseases (not T.B.s)	11

FOOD and DRUGS ACT

The following foodstuffs have been condemned from among the goods examined.
Each item of goods has been reported to the Ministry of Food and to the retailer concerned.

MILK	20 tins	Evaporated
MEAT	144 "	Corned Beef
	1 "	Minced Beef Loaf
	5 "	4 lb. Belgian Brawn
	1 "	Porkam
	1 "	York Pain de Viande
	2 "	Veal Loaf
	28 lbs.	Sausages
	2 "	Ox Heads
	10½ lb.	Beef and bone
BUTTER	2½ lb.	
PEAS	4 tins	Processed, A2s.
FISH	6 stone	Kippers
	38 tins	Herring Roes
	27 "	Marinated Mussels
FRUIT	9	26 oz. bottles Preserved Plums
	3	" " Rhubarb
VEGETABLES	4 tins	Spinach Puree

MILK and DAIRIES REGULATIONS

<u>Tests</u>	<u>Heat-Treated Milk</u>	<u>T.T.Cert.Milk</u>	<u>Empty Cleansed Bottles</u>
14.1.49	Satisfactory	31.1.49 Satisfactory	1.1.49 Unsatisfactory
28.1.49	"	8.4.49 "	29.1.49 Satisfactory
14.2.49	"	22.4.49 "	31.1.49 "
18.2.49	"	16.6.49 Unsatisfactory	19.2.49 Fairly Satisfactory
3.3.49	"	22.8.49 Satisfactory	18.3.49 " "
16.3.49	"		7.4.49 Unsatisfactory
7.4.49	"		22.4.49 "
28.4.49	Unsatisfactory		25.4.49 Satisfactory
6.5.49	Satisfactory		19.5.49 "
17.5.49	"		16.6.49 Unsatisfactory
23.6.49	Unsatisfactory		23.6.49 Satisfactory
11.7.49	"		3.8.49 Unsatisfactory
3.8.49	"		22.8.49 "
26.8.49	"		26.8.49 "
10.9.49	Satisfactory		12.9.49 "
1.10.49	Unsatisfactory		29.9.49 "
26.11.49	Satisfactory		

There are in the Clevedon area - (a) Registered Dairy Farms 28
(b) Retailers 16
(c) Producer-Retailers included in (b) 8
(d) Under the "Special Designation Order" there are -
Accredited Herds 2
Tuberculin-tested herds 1
Pasteurising Milk Retailers 1
Heat-treated Milk 1
No. of supplementary licences issued - 3

<u>ICE CREAM</u>	No. of premises registered for	
	(a) manufacture	6
	(b) sale	30

Inspections have been periodically made. Conditions have considerably improved since the new regulations came into force in 1948. 8 new refrigerators have been installed this year.

DISINFLECTION and FUMIGATION

The following cases were dealt with:-

January:	1 room, 1 house, bedding from hospital.
February:	Bundle of bedding, 2 rooms.
March:	1 room, 2 bundles bedding from hospital.
April:	1 house, 3 bundles bedding from hospital.
May:June:	1 room, 3 bundles bedding from hospital.
July:	Properties treated for accumulation of flies. 3 bundles bedding from hospital, 1 from a nursing home.
August:	4 rooms, 1 bundle bedding.
September:	2 mattresses, 4 pillows, 2 rooms.
October:	1 room, 1 bundle clothing.
November:	3 bundles mattresses & pillows, 4 rooms.
December:	6 bundles mattresses & pillows, 2 rooms.

FACTORY ACTS

1. <u>Inspections</u>	No. on <u>Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written</u> <u>Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers</u> <u>Prosecuted</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	20	3	Nil
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	38	25	2	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	10	12	1	Nil
Total	73	57	6	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

	Found	Remedied	To H.M. <u>Inspector</u>	By H.M. <u>Inspector</u>	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness	3	3		1	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation	Nil				
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil				
Sanitary Conveniences					
a. Insufficient	1	1			
b. Unsuitable or defective					
c. Not separate for sexes	1	1			
Total	5	5	-	1	-

OUTWORK

	No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1) (c)(3)	No. of cases in default in sending lists to Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure of work to supply lists	No. of instances of unwhole- some premises	Notices Served	Prosecution
Wearing(Making etc)	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Apparel(Cleaning & Washing)	1	"	"	"	"	"
Artificial flowers	1	"	"	"	"	"
Glove Making	1	"	"	"	"	"
TOTAL	4					



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SALVAGE COLLECTION FOR 1949

	PAPER		METALS		RAGS		BONES		COST		KITCHEN WASTE		COST																								
	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.	£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	£.	s.	d.																					
January	13.	18.	2.						88.	15.	5.	8.	10.	0.	6.	17.	6.																				
February	15.	12.	3.						78.	13.	0.	6.	0.	0.	7.	0.	3.																				
March	14.	5.	2.	3.	17.	0.	1.	0.	0.	96.	17.	3.	7.	6.	0.	8.	16.	0.																			
April	11.	13.	1.			2.				67.	13.	7.	7.	6.	0.	7.	14.	0.																			
May	15.	3.	0.							82.	12.	3.	8.	11.	0.	5.	4.	6.																			
June	12.	9.	0.							97.	5.	1.	8.	15.	2.	8.	5.	0.																			
July	15.	4.	2.	1.	3.	0.				79.	5.	9.	7.	8.	2.	7.	8.	6.																			
August	5.	11.	0.							58.	0.	3.	11.	5.	2.	6.	12.	0.																			
September	--												13.	4.	0.	9.	19.	8.																			
October	--												12.	16.	2.	10.	14.	9.																			
November	--												8.	0.	0.	12.	0.	0.																			
December	--												7.	12.	0.	9.	11.	1.																			
										103.	17.	2.	5.	0.	2.	3.	3.	0.	649.	2.	7.	106.	15.	0.	100.	3.	3.										
												Paper, Rags, Metals etc.		Sales		713.		18.		7.		Kitchen Waste.		Sales		247.		10.		7.							
												649.		2.		7.				Cost		649.		2.		7.		Kitchen Waste.		Sales		247.		10.		7.	
												64.		16.		0.				Gross Profit				117.		7.		4.				Gross Profit					

NOTE: Waste Paper Collections
Cancelled, August 1949.

The Clevedon Water Company
Bacteriological Analyses

Reservoirs	Date Sample taken	Colonies on Agar at 20° C. per ml.	Colonies on Agar at 37° C. per ml.	Organisms of the Coli- aerogenes Group, per 100 ml.
Low Level	7.3.50	1	less than 1	absent
High Level	7.3.50	1	less than 1	do
Low Level	7.2.50	7	1	do
High Level	7.2.50	1	1	do
Cadbury	7.2.50	less than 1	2	do
Low Level	10.1.50	less than 1	less than 1	do
High Level	10.1.50	less than 1	less than 1	do
Cadbury	10.1.50	3 including 2 moulds	1	do
Low Level	29.11.49	1	1	do
High Level	29.11.49	less than 1	less than 1	do
Cadbury	29.11.49	less than 1	less than 1	do
<u>General Chemical Examination. 21st November, 1949.</u>				
Reaction		Will Lane Well		Tickenham Road Well
		7.2		7.3
		<u>Parts per million</u>		<u>Parts per million</u>
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	N.	less than 0.01		less than 0.01
Albuhinoid	N.	0.02		less than 0.01
Nitrous	N.	absent		absent
Nitric	N.	4.6		3.7
Hardness (Calculated from Mineral Analyses)		305		293
		119		57
			Temporary Permanent	
Permanganate figure (4 hrs. 80° F.)		0.25		0.07
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃		305		293
Total Solids		500		418

Water Supplies, Sewer, Housing Statistics Supplied to Ministry of Health

- (i) Whether the water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality, (b) in quantity: Yes
- (ii) Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply; if so, how many and the results obtained; the results of any chemical analyses: Yes, chlorine treated.
4 Bacteriological - Satisfactory
1 Chemical
Hardness evident
- (iii) Where the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action, the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and result of analyses: No evidence of action.
Lead and copper absent.
- (iv) Action in respect of any form of contamination. No contamination evident
No action taken.
- (v) Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains (a) direct to the houses (b) by means of stand-pipes. (a) 2850
(b) 8

SEWAGE DISPOSALExtensions of sewers, new works or improvements during year.

Plans, Estimates and Bills of Quantities have been prepared, tenders invited and approved by the Ministry for a scheme which was started in November 1949 for the laying of an 18" sewer 970 ft. long as the first year programme (22 houses) of Meadow Road Housing Site.

Future Proposals

A scheme is in progress for a new housing estate, 157 houses, shops and flats and tentative approval received from the Ministry.

HOUSING

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Conversion to flats or dwellings		Temporary such as Army Huts etc.
	Perm.	Temp.	Perm.	Temp.	Perm.	Temp.	
Local Authority	24	0	27	0	0	0	0
Private Enterprise	9	0	1	0	16	0	0
Total	33	0	28	0	16	0	0

Grants made under the Housing Act 1949:

(a) conversion of buildings to dwellings	Total £	<u>Nil</u>
(b) improvement of dwellings	Total £	<u>Nil</u>

Houses required:

(a) to replace those unfit (including basements)	20
(b) to abate overcrowding	10
(c) where conditions are unsatisfactory, e.g. two families living in same house, but not included in (a) or (b)	223
Total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year	283
Houses occupied that have been condemned as totally unfit	Nil

Houses owned or controlled by the Council are:-

Prefabricated bungalows	20
Unity type houses	50
Traditional	187
Requisitioned flats	<u>72</u>
	<u>329</u>

Many other houses will soon be in occupation.

Continuous repairs are necessary every week and will increase as more houses are built. These repairs have been carried out with the present staff with the occasional use of builders, but the work is now getting beyond control with existing staff, and consideration should soon be given to the advisability of forming a Housing Repair Department within your existing Technical Department, as is being done by a large number of local authorities.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses in district.	Nil
Number of Registered Slaughter Houses in district.	Nil
Number of Slaughter Houses in use where horses are slaughtered for human consumption	Nil
Names of any in use under Ministry of Food	Nil

RIVERS

The ketching and cleaning of the portions of the rivers for which the Council are responsible has been carried out within the periods appointed and each time has been approved by the Viewers.

PETROLEUM and CARBIDE ACTS

Inspections have been periodically made of premises holding licences and reports made when application for renewal of licences have been received.

- 31 Licences have been issued for the sale of Petroleum and Carbide Products.
1 Licence for the storing of cellulose products.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

Although there have been some improvements in this service, there are still some difficulties and complaints come in occasionally, some justified, others through lack of appreciation of the effect of weather conditions and growth of tonnage collected.

The area of Clevedon is divided into 5 inner districts and one outside district and so arranged that one day is allotted for each district, thus getting in the collection of the whole area each week. Weather conditions and breakdowns sometimes delay the collection, which is unavoidable and consequently complaints and often abuse come on the 'phone and by letter. I am aware that complaints are justly made at times of the overflow of refuse during collection owing to the bins being tipped into carrying baths and questions are sometimes asked why the men do not carry out the bins and empty them in the waggon. The use of baths was introduced to avoid the double journey of carrying out and returning the bins (quite a distance in many houses) and thus ensure time to enable the collections to be made within the week. I have calculated that each refuse collector walks approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles per day with his load and without the use of baths, another mile would be added. It must be borne in mind too, that over 33 houses and 30 flats have been added for collection during the year and additional houses are continuously being added.

The estimated tonnage collected this year is 2,400, an increase of 400 tons over last year.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

These have been cleansed and disinfected each day.

GAS EXAMINATION

The following are the results of tests made during the year, for Calorific Value, Purity and Water Pressure.

	<u>B.Th.U.</u>	<u>Sulphuretted Hydrogen</u>	<u>Water Pressure</u>
28. 1. 49	459.7	Absent	5 inches
28. 2. 49	451.2	"	5 "
30. 3. 49	452.2	"	5 "
3. 5. 49	451.7	"	5 "
24. 5. 49	443.4	"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
31. 5. 49	446.9	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
17. 6. 49	457.3	"	5 "
28. 6. 49	448.5	"	5 "
30. 6. 49	453.6	"	5 "
5. 8. 49	448.7	"	5 "
30. 8. 49	459.9	"	5 "
31. 10. 49	448.2	"	5 "
14. 11. 49	452	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
25. 11. 49	462.7	"	5 "
30. 11. 49	454.8	"	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
28. 12. 49	451.5	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
31. 12. 49	449.2	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

RATS and MICE(DESTRUCTION)ACT, 1919 Infestation Order, 1943

Factories, business premises and private houses have been baited and treated. The number treated during the year has been 90.

The house refuse tip has been regularly inspected and treated when necessary.

Yards, sheds, piggeries, cowsheds, coastal rocks, river banks, have also been dealt with.

Quarterly reports have been sent to the Regional Rodent Officer.

NUISANCES

Public: 23 cases have been successfully dealt with.

Private: 34 cases have been inspected, and all have been abated.

Two statutory orders only were necessary.

CONTROL OF BUILDING

General Building Licences	46
Conversions	6
Other Licences	5
I.S. Forms	14

BUILDINGS (BYELAWS) ETC.

170 Plans have been dealt with during the year, particulars entered in the Register and copies sent to the County Planning Officer.

166 Building Certificates sent to builders in connection with the progress and inspection of buildings under the requirements of the Byelaws, etc.

<u>Inspections under Byelaws</u>	Foundations	16
	Damp-proof Course	14
	Concrete oversite	12
	Drains	18
	Completion of building	14

Council Houses Completion of Building Certificates issued to Contractors and the Clerk of the Council - 24

SHOPS ACT 1912 - 1934
Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938

Shops Act

There are 210 shops now registered in the District.

The conditions laid down by the Acts have been reasonably observed and only a few notifications and notices have been necessary. I have not observed any open violation.

Seats for assistants (under section 3) are supplied where required and no complaints have been received that opportunities for use have been denied.

Lighting has been found to be generally good but adjustments and replacements have, in some cases, been inadvertently overlooked.

Sanitary conveniences have, in most cases, been adequate. Additional conveniences have been added to two shops.

No complaints have been received in regard to facilities for taking meals.

The exhibition of Notices in regard to half holidays has been fairly well observed.

Five cases of non-fulfilment were complied with after first notification.

Young Persons (Employment) Act.

Records have been kept of young persons employed and notices exhibited in the shops giving ages, condition of service, etc., and have been checked periodically.

Irvin Heath

Sanitary Inspector

22nd March 1950

